Offset contracts of more than Rs.7500 Crores have been signed till date. Contracts between foreign suppliers and Indian defence companies are resulting in setting up of, *inter-alia,* manufacturing, design, testing, service centers in the Indian defence industries.

Structural Fault in MIG-29 Fighter Planes

†1220. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia, has pointed out structural faults in MIG-29 aircrafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is formulating any action plan to decommission MIG-29 aircrafts from its airfleet;

(d) if so, the time period for decommissioning alongwith details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons for keeping these aircrafts in the air fleet despite detection of structural faults in them;

(f) whether it is also a fact that Government has made a new deal for purchase of these aircrafts; and

(g) if so, the steps Government proposes to take in the light of these faults?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There was a MiG-29 accident in Russia in December 2008. RAC-MiG has intimated that corrosion on the Fin Root Ribs has been identified as the cause of crack development.

(c) to (e) There is no plan to decommission MiG-29 aircraft. The repair scheme and preventive measures are in place and IAF has not encountered major problems concerning the issue.

(f) and (g) IAF has not entered into a new deal for procurement of MiG-29 aircraft.

Reduction in Deployment of Forces in J&K

1221. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether threat from terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir is real;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) is there a move to reduce deployment forces; and

(d) the effect and consequence thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.